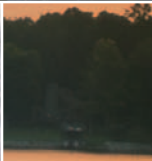


Virginia Watercraft Owner's Guide

Be "Boat Smart"
Take a Boating Safety Course



Life Jackets Save Lives

The Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries is the state agency responsible for managing the Commonwealth's diverse wildlife and freshwater fish populations; maintaining a vast array of wildlife management areas, public fishing lakes and public boat ramp access areas that afford extensive recreational opportunities to enjoy the out-of-doors; promoting safe recreational boating, fishing and hunting activities; and enforcing laws and regulations concerning hunting, fishing, and recreational boating. Established in 1916, the Department is primarily funded by Virginia boaters, anglers and hunters through fees paid for hunting and fishing licenses, revenue generated from boat registrations, titles and the watercraft sales tax, as well as federal funds derived from hunters, anglers, and boaters.

Virginia's geography includes a wide variety of waterways. Our state combines the excitement of whitewater rivers and the dynamics of tidal waters with serene lakes and reservoirs. Virginia simply has it all—reservoirs, lakes, and ponds; miles and miles of rivers, mountain streams, the Chesapeake Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean.

Take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the information contained in this publication. An informed recreational boater knows and follows the established laws and regulations of safe and legal boating. We hope that your boating experience will always be one of Be Responsible, Be Safe, Have Fun!

Mission Statement

To manage Virginia's wildlife and inland fish to maintain optimum populations of all species to serve the needs of the Commonwealth; to provide opportunity for all to enjoy wildlife, inland fish, boating and related outdoor recreation; to promote safety for persons and property in connection with boating, hunting and fishing.



Published 5/05

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Visit our Web Site at: www.dgif.virginia.gov

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The Virginia Boating Laws and Regulations contained in this publication are in a summarized format. It is the responsibility of the boater to know and follow all applicable rules. The Virginia Boat Codes and Regulations may be accessed at: http://www.virginia.gov/cmsportal/government_881/virginia_1048/index.html

Cover: photos by Dwight Dyke; whitewater canoeing inset photo by Lynda Richardson.
All inside photos by Dwight Dyke

Watercraft Registration, Titling and Sales Tax Requirements

The Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries (DGIF) administers all boat titling and registration of recreational boats in Virginia. All motorboats used on the public waters of Virginia must be registered and titled. If the motorboat is principally used on the public waters of Virginia it must be registered and titled in Virginia as opposed to another state.

- A Certificate of Title (title) and a Certificate of Number (registration) are required for all watercraft propelled by machinery, including , but not limited to, gasoline, diesel and electric motors.
- A title alone is required for sail-powered vessels in excess of 18' in length, even if they do not have a motor.

Canoes and other manually or sail-powered watercraft, and watercraft used only on private waters do not require registration.

New watercraft must be registered or have a temporary registration before they may be operated on the public waters of Virginia.

Used watercraft with a current, valid registration may be operated for 30 days on the previous owner's registration if a copy of the dated bill of sale and the registration card are carried aboard the watercraft.

If there is no valid registration or the registration has expired, used watercraft must be registered or have a temporary registration before being operated on the public waters.

An owner bringing a watercraft into Virginia from another state may operate the vessel up to 90 consecutive days on the other state's current, valid registration before registering it in Virginia.

Watercraft registration is accomplished through the mail or at the DGIF headquarters building at 4010 West Broad Street in Richmond (8:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., M-F except holidays). The full mailing address is on the application form. Applications submitted through the mail are usually processed and the registration materials mailed within two weeks of receipt in Richmond.

Titling and Registering Your Watercraft

The Application for Watercraft Certificate of Title and Certificate of Number (registration) form is available from DGIF offices, most watercraft dealers, agents who sell hunting and fishing licenses, Department of Motor Vehicle service centers, and from the DGIF Web site (www.dgif.virginia.gov). This is a combined application for both the registration and title.

An application for title and registration requires a detailed description of the watercraft that includes the make, length, model year, type of vessel, hull material, type of propulsion, and the 12-character hull identification number; the make, horsepower and serial number of the motor if in excess of 25 horsepower; and the name and address of the lienholder, if any.

Most of this information will be available from the title provided by the previous owner or the Manufacturer's Statement of Origin provided by the retail outlet where the watercraft was purchased.

Certain supporting documents must be submitted with an application for title and registration as follows:

1. New Watercraft:

- a. The owner must provide the original Manufacturer's or Importer's Certificate (statement) of Origin with "First Assignment" completed and issued by dealer at time of purchase and a copy of the sales invoice showing gross purchase price, watercraft sales tax paid and a description of the watercraft.
- b. If watercraft was homemade by you, an affidavit must be provided stating this fact in lieu of a Manufacturer's or Importer's Certificate of Origin. The affidavit may be retrieved from the DGIF Web site or mailed to you upon request. Copies of receipts for building materials must also be submitted with the application. (Your watercraft may be subject to inspection by a law enforcement officer.)

2. Used Watercraft:

If titled in Virginia- the **original** title with assignment of title completed by titled owner/owners. If purchased from a dealer the dealer reassignment portion of the title must be completed, and include a copy of the sales invoice showing gross purchase price, watercraft sales tax paid and a description of the watercraft.

If titled by someone else in another state- the **original** title with assignment of title completed by titled owner/owners. If purchased from a dealer the dealer reassignment portion of the title must be completed, and include a copy of the sales invoice showing gross purchase price, watercraft sales tax paid and a description of the watercraft.

If titled by you in another state (moving the watercraft to Virginia)- the **original** title must be submitted.

If registered by you in another state but not titled (moving the watercraft to Virginia)- a copy of the out-of-state registration.

If registered in Virginia but never titled- a copy of a dated bill of sale or a "Notification of Change in Status of a Numbered Vessel" form signed by the registered owner/owners. (Available on the DGIF Web site or mailed to you upon request.)

If registered by someone else in another state but not titled- a copy of the out-of-state registration and a copy of the bill of sale signed by the registered owner/owners.

If never registered or titled in Virginia or any other state- an "Affidavit for Registering and Titling a Motorboat Not Previously Registered and/or Titled" form. (Available on the DGIF Web site or mailed on request.)

3. Documented Watercraft

If Documented with the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and being changed to state registration- the Certificate of Documentation, a copy of the signed bill of sale, and

either a Letter of Deletion from the USCG or the Abstract of Title (with proof of lien release in the documented owner's name). Note: Watercraft cannot be documented by the USCG and registered at the same time. The owner must choose between documentation and registration.

Boat Motors

Any size, type or horsepower of motor on a watercraft will require it to be registered, but only motors in excess of 25 horsepower are listed on titles.

Registration and Titling Fees and Watercraft Sales and Use Tax

Most people must pay a registration fee, a titling fee, and watercraft sales and use tax when they acquire a watercraft. These fees are found on the application.

Watercraft Registration	Fee
than 16 feet length	\$27.00
16 to less than 20 feet length	\$31.00
20 to less than 40 feet length	\$37.00
40 feet length and longer	\$45.00
Temporary certificate	\$10.50
Duplicate Cards & Decals (Replacements or extra sets)	\$9.00
Livery of up to 10 watercraft	\$27.00
Livery of more than 10 watercraft	\$21.00
Titling	
Original	\$7.00
Duplicate	\$2.00
Change of Motor on Title (Original Title must be submitted)	\$2.00
Record Supplemental Lien on Previously Titled Watercraft (Original Title must be submitted)	\$7.00
Tax	
Watercraft Sales and Use Tax	2% of gross purchase of watercraft and motor

Duplicate Titles, Registrations or Decals

If a title, registration or decal becomes defaced, lost or destroyed, you may obtain an “Application for a Duplicate Certificate of Number, Decal and/or Title” form at all the locations where the application is available (see “Titling and Registering Your Watercraft” above). You may also use this form to order extra registration cards should you want more than one.

Please note that only one valid title is recognized for each watercraft. If a duplicate title is issued, it prevails over any previously issued title.

Temporary 30-Day Registration Certificate

If you wish to operate a watercraft that does not have a valid registration (it expired, the watercraft is new, it was never registered, etc.), a “Virginia Motorboat Temporary Registration Certificate” is required. It allows a watercraft to be legally operated for 30 days pending the receipt of the 3-year registration from DGIF. **The Temporary Registration Certificate is available for purchase through all Hunting and Fishing License Agents at a cost of \$10.50. A list of Hunting and Fishing License Agents can be found on DGIF’s Web site.**

If you purchase this Certificate, you are not required to display the Virginia registration numbers on your watercraft during the 30-day period in which the Temporary Registration Certificate is valid. To purchase the temporary you will need to show the license agent some proof of ownership (bill of sale, registration card, manufacturer’s statement of origin, or title).

You must apply for the 3-year registration immediately after receipt of the temporary registration certificate. An application to register and title the watercraft may be obtained from the same agents that sell the temporary registration certificate.

Expiration and Renewal of Registration

Registrations are valid for three years. Renewal notices are mailed to the last known address of all watercraft owners 60 days before expiration. The most common reason owners do not receive a renewal notice is because their address has changed within the three years and DGIF was not notified. If a renewal notice was not received, the registration may be renewed by checking the “renew registration” box at the top of the application to register and title a watercraft, then completing the application. A shorter “registration renewal application” is also available at the DGIF Web site.



Notification of Change in Status or Change of Mailing Address

If a registered watercraft is sold, destroyed, abandoned, or stolen, or if there is a change in your mailing address, you are required by law to report this information within 15 days **in writing** to the DGIF Boat Section. A “Notification of Change of Status of a Numbered Vessel” form is available at all the locations where the application is available (see “Titling and Registering Your Watercraft” on page 4).

Registration Must be Onboard While Operating

You must have the registration card or a “temporary” registration on the vessel before your watercraft may legally be operated on public waters. **The 3-year registration card is the official document of registration for your watercraft and once it has been issued, must be carried aboard the watercraft when in use.**

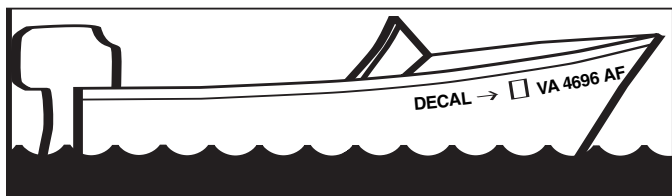
If you purchased a used watercraft with a valid, current registration, you may operate the vessel for 30 days from the date of purchase provided you carry a dated bill of sale and the former owner’s valid registration card.

Display of Registration Numbers

The number issued to your watercraft appears on the registration and is to be displayed on each side of the bow of the vessel in block letters, at least 3” in height, and contrasting in color with hull or background. They may be painted or attached to the watercraft, **must read from left to right** and must always be legible.

A space or hyphen must separate both the “VA” symbol and the letter suffix from the numerals.

Example: VA 4696 AF or VA-4696-AF
(Must read from left to right)



If the watercraft already has Virginia registration numbers (used watercraft), in most instances those same numbers will be reassigned to the new owner. The Virginia registration number assigned to a watercraft should never be removed from the watercraft unless DGIF assigns new numbers to the vessel.

Validation Decals

Decals will be furnished with each 3-year registration issued by the DGIF. **Decals indicate the month, year of expiration and the registration number assigned to your**

watercraft, and must be displayed within 6 inches of the registration number on each side of the watercraft for which they were issued. Only the current decal may be visible. Expired decals must be removed.

Trailers - Title, Registration and License Plates

Title, registration and license plates for watercraft trailers are purchased through the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Additional information on watercraft registration and titling may be obtained by calling the Boat Section of the DGIF **804-367-6135** or Toll Free **1-877-898-BOAT (2628)**.

Equipment Regulations

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)

Nearly all boating-related fatalities are the result of drowning and it is estimated that over 80% of fatalities could have been prevented if a life jacket was worn.

At least one (1) USCG approved Type IV throwable (ring buoy or seat cushion), per boat, is required on all recreational boats regardless of size, in ADDITION to the wearable PFD required for each person onboard. The regulation to carry a Type IV does not apply to personal watercraft (PWC), canoes, kayaks, inflatable rafts and vessels less than 16' in length registered in another state temporarily using Virginia waters.

Inflatable life jackets are lightweight, comfortable to wear and take up about one-tenth the storage room of conventional foam-filled PFDs. Most are USCG approved for persons over 16 years of age who are not engaged in whitewater or skiing activities or riding on PWC.

Federal Life Jacket Rule for Children Under 13 Years Old

No person may operate a recreational vessel on federal waters with any child under age 13 on the vessel unless each child is either:

1. Wearing an appropriate PFD approved by the Coast Guard; or
2. Below deck or in an enclosed cabin.

In Virginia, this rule is enforced by the U.S. Coast Guard and applies on waters over which they have enforcement jurisdiction.



Type I - Adult



**Type I - Hybrid
50-90 pounds**



Type II - Child

Proper Stowage of PFDs

Each required Type I, II, or III wearable PFD must be readily accessible. “Readily accessible” means the PFDs are stowed where they can be easily reached, or are out in the open ready for wear. Readily accessible PFDs cannot be in protective coverings or under lock and key.

Type V (hybrid device) PFD must be worn according to the manufacturer label to meet carriage requirements.

Each Type IV throwable PFD must be immediately available. “Immediately available” means the PFD shall be quickly reachable in an emergency situation. An immediately available PFD cannot be in a protective covering, in a closed compartment or under other equipment.



Type III

PFD Serviceability

A PFD is considered to be in serviceable condition only if the following conditions are met:

1. No PFD may exhibit deterioration that could diminish the performance of the PFD, including:
 - a. Metal or plastic hardware used to secure the PFD on the wearer that is broken, deformed, or weakened by corrosion;
 - b. Webbings or straps used to secure the PFD on the wearer that are ripped, torn, or which have become separated from an attachment point on the PFD; or
 - c. Any other rotted or deteriorated structural component that fails when tugged.
2. In addition to meeting the requirements of subparagraph 1 above, no inherently buoyant PFD, including the inherently buoyant components of a hybrid inflatable PFD, may exhibit:



**Type IV
Ring Buoy and
Throwable Seat
Cushion**



Type III - Inflatables

- a. Rips, tears, or open seams in fabric or coatings, that are large enough to allow the loss of buoyant material;
- b. Buoyant material that has become hardened, non-resilient, permanently compressed, waterlogged, oil-soaked, or which shows evidence of fungus or mildew; or
- c. Loss of buoyant material or buoyant material that is not securely held in position.

3. In addition to meeting the requirements of subparagraph 1 above, an inflatable PFD, including the inflatable components of a hybrid inflatable PFD, must be equipped with:
 - a. Except as provided in subparagraph 4 below, a properly armed inflation mechanism, complete with a full inflation medium cartridge and all status indicators showing that the inflation mechanism is properly armed;
 - b. Inflatable chambers that are all capable of holding air;
 - c. Oral inflation tubes that are not blocked, detached, or broken;
 - d. A manual inflation lanyard or lever that is not inaccessible, broken, or missing; and
 - e. Inflator status indicators that are not broken or otherwise non-functional.
4. The inflation system of an inflatable PFD need not be armed when the PFD is worn inflated and otherwise meets the requirements of subparagraphs 1 and 3 above.

Fire Extinguishers

All inboards, all outboards 26 feet and over, and all outboards under 26 feet which have one or more of the following conditions must have approved fire extinguishers aboard.

- a. Closed compartment under thwarts and seats wherein portable fuel tanks may be stored.
- b. Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation material.
- c. Closed living spaces.
- d. Closed stowage compartment in which combustible or flammable materials may be stowed.
- e. Permanently installed fuel tanks.



Minimum Number of B-I Hand-Portable Fire Extinguishers Required ¹		
Length, feet	No Fixed Fire Extinguishing Systems in Engine Space	Fixed Fire Extinguishing System in Engine Space
Under 16	1	0
16 to less than 26	1	0
26 to less than 40	2	1
40 to 65	3	2
¹ One B-11 hand-portable fire extinguisher may be substituted for two B-1 hand-portable fire extinguishers.		

Backfire Flame Arrestor

Inboard gasoline engines must have USCG, SEA-J11, or UL approved flame arrestors on their carburetors. The backfire flame arrestor must be securely attached to the carburetor.

Ventilation

No person may operate a boat built after July 31, 1980, that has an inboard gasoline engine (for whatever use) unless it is equipped with an operable ventilation system that meets USCG standards.

For boats built after April 25, 1940, and before August 1, 1980, (with engines using gasoline as fuel and other fuels having a flashpoint of 110°F. or less) the following is required:

At least two ventilation ducts fitted with cowls or their equivalent for the purpose of properly and efficiently ventilating the bilges of every engine and fuel tank compartment. There shall be at least one exhaust duct installed so as to extend to the lower portion of the bilge and at least one intake duct installed so as to extend to a point at least midway to the bilge or at least below the level of the carburetor air intake.

For boats which are built after July 31, 1978, but prior to August 1, 1980, there are no requirements for ventilation of the fuel tank compartment if there is no electrical source in the compartment and if the fuel tank vents to the outside of the boat.

The operator of the vessel is required to keep the system in operating condition.

Sound Producing Devices

Regulations do not specifically require vessels less than 39.4 feet in length to carry a whistle, horn or bell. However, the navigation rules require sound signals to be made under certain circumstances. Meeting, crossing and overtaking situations described in Navigation Rules are examples of when sound signals are required. Recreational vessels are also required to sound fog signals during periods of reduced visibility. **Therefore, having some means of making an efficient sound signal capable of a 4 second blast, audible for 1 mile is recommended.**

Vessels of 39.4 feet or more in length are required to carry on board a power whistle or power horn audible one half mile and a bell at least 7-7/8" (200mm) in diameter.



Visual Distress Signals

All recreational boats 16 feet or greater in length shall be equipped with visual distress signaling devices at all times when operating on **coastal waters**.

Boats less than 16 feet, manually propelled boats (rowboats, canoes, kayaks, etc.),

and open sailboats under 26 feet with no motor, are required to carry only night visual distress signals when operated on coastal waters at night.

Note: It is illegal to display a visual distress signal unless immediate assistance is needed.

This regulation applies to all coastal water and those rivers 2 miles or more wide at the mouth and up to the first point the river narrows to less than 2 miles.

Pyrotechnic visual distress signals must be USCG approved, in serviceable condition and readily accessible. **The expiration date must be current.** Launchers produced before January 1, 1981, intended for use with approved signals are not required to be USCG approved.

USCG approved Visual Distress Signals include:

- Pyrotechnic red flares, hand-held or aerial;
- Pyrotechnic orange smoke, hand-held or floating;
- Launchers for aerial red meteors or parachute flares.

Non-pyrotechnic visual distress signaling devices must meet USCG requirements. They must be in serviceable condition and be readily accessible. This group includes:

- Orange distress flag with black square and black ball, for daytime use;
- Electric distress light for night use.



USCG Approval Number	Device Description	Meets Requirements For	Number Required
160.021	Hand Held Red Flare Distress Signals - 3	Day and Night	3
160.022	Floating Orange Smoke Distress Signals	Day Only	3
160.024	Parachute Red Flare Distress Signals	Day and Night - 1	3
160.036	Hand-Held Rocket-Propelled Parachute Red Flare Distress Signals	Day and Night	3
160.037	Hand-Held Orange Smoke Distress Signals	Day Only	3
160.057	Floating Orange Smoke Distress Signals	Day Only	3
160.066	Distress Signal for Boats, Red Aerial Pyrotechnic Flare	Day and Night - 2	3

The following points will be used as the “cutoff points” for enforcement of the visual distress signal regulations on the coastal waters in Virginia.

1. Entrance to *Hampton Roads* up to where the waterway is reduced to 2 nautical miles which is a line drawn between Old Point Comfort and Fort Wool.
2. *York River* up to where the waterway is reduced to 2 nautical miles which is a line drawn between Sandy Point and Tue Point, which is in the vicinity of Tue Marshes Light.
3. *Mobjack Bay* up to, but not including, the Severn, Ware, North and East Rivers.
4. Entrance to the *Piankatank River* where the waterway is reduced to 2 nautical miles which is a line drawn from Cherry Point at Gwynns Island across the river to the opposite shore, which is in the vicinity of Piankatank River Lighted Buoy 6.
5. *Rappahannock River* up to where the waterway is reduced to 2 nautical miles, which is a line drawn from Parrott Island to Cherry Point, which is just before you get to the first highway bridge.
6. Those parts of the *Pocomoke* and *Tangier Sounds* which fall within Virginia.
7. Where the uncharted inlets of the *Atlantic Ocean* are reduced to 2 nautical miles in width.

Muffling Device

The exhaust of an internal combustion engine on any motorboat shall be effectively muffled. The muffling device shall exhaust at or below the water line or it shall be equipped with mechanical baffles. The use of cutouts is prohibited.

Marine Sanitation Devices (MSD)

Vessels with installed toilets and marine sanitation devices shall be in compliance with federal regulations which set standards for sewage discharges from marine sanitation devices. Vessels without installed toilets or without installed marine sanitation devices shall not directly or indirectly discharge sewage into state waters. Sewage and other wastes from self-contained, portable toilets or other containment devices shall be pumped out at pump-out facilities or carried ashore for treatment in facilities approved by the Virginia Department of Health. Smith Mountain Lake is a “No Discharge Zone.”

Pump Out Stations

A complete list of pump out stations is available by contacting the Virginia Department of Health at 804-864-7473 or online at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/marina/pdfs/pumpouts.pdf>.

Navigation Lights Required on Boats Between Sunset and Sunrise

Recreational boats, while underway, are required to display navigation lights (see pages 16 –17) between sunset and sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility.

No other lights shall be exhibited that could impair the visibility of required running lights or impair the visibility of approaching vessels.

Lights Used When Anchored

An anchor light is a 360 degree (all-round) white light exhibited where it can best be seen and visible for 2 miles.

International

Power-driven vessels and sailing vessels less than 65.6 feet in length shall not be required to display anchor lights unless anchored in or near a narrow channel, fairway or anchorage, or where other vessels normally navigate.

Inland

Power-driven vessels and sailing vessels less than 65.6 feet in length at anchor must display anchor lights. Vessels less than 23.9 feet in length shall not be required to display anchor lights unless anchored in or near a narrow channel, fairway or anchorage or where other vessels normally navigate. A vessel less than 65.6 feet, in inland waters when at anchor in a special anchorage area designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall not be required to exhibit an anchor light.

Range and Degree of Navigation Lights Inland and International

Location of Lights	Visible Range For Vessels		Degrees of Arc
	Less than 12 m	12 m to 20 m	
Masthead	2 miles	3 miles	225°
All-round	2 miles	2 miles	360°
Side Lights	1 mile	2 miles	112.5°
Stern Lights	2 miles	2 miles	135°

Special Lights for Enforcement Vessels

Enforcement vessels of the DGIF and the USCG may display a rotating or flashing blue light. When such a light is observed you should stop immediately and lay to, or maneuver in such a way as to permit the boarding officer to come aboard.

By federal law, blue lights may only be displayed by enforcement vessels of the federal, state or local governments, and have the same effect on the water as the rotating or flashing blue lights on law enforcement cars traveling our highways.

Navigation Lights – Power Driven Vessels

Figure 1

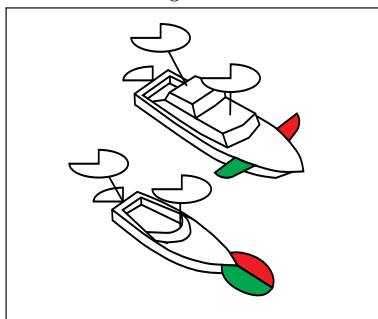


Figure 2

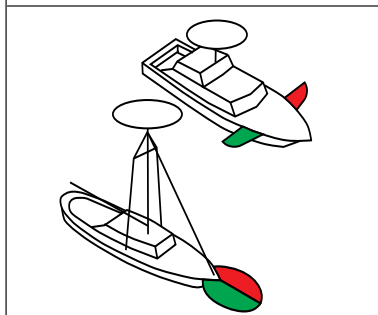
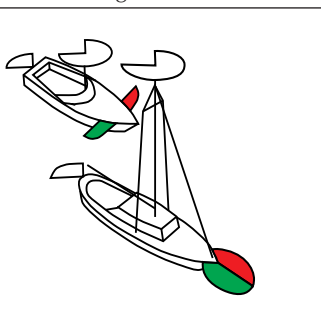


Figure 3

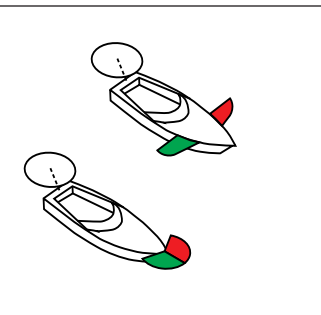


Figure 4

International

1. A power-driven vessel **20 meters (65' 7 1/2") and over** shall exhibit navigation lights as shown in Figures 1 and 2. If you choose Figure 1 the aft masthead light must be higher than the forward one. If Figure 2 is selected, a vessel **less than 20 meters (65' 7 1/2")** must have the masthead light 1 meter (3' 3") higher than the colored lights. If the vessel is **12 meters (39' 4 1/2") or more in length and less than 20 meters (65' 7 1/2")** the masthead light must be 2.5 meters higher than the gunwale.
2. A power-driven vessel **less than 7 meters (23' 11 1/2") in length** and whose maximum speed cannot exceed **7 knots** may, in lieu of the lights prescribed above, exhibit an all-around white light. Such vessel shall, if practicable also exhibit red and green lights.

Inland

1. A power-driven vessel, when the construction was started before December 15, 1981, **less than 20 meters (65' 7 1/2")** shall exhibit navigation lights as displayed in Figures 2 or 3.
2. A power-driven vessel, when the construction was started after December 14, 1981, **12 meters (39' 4 1/2") or more in length and less than 20 meters (65' 7 1/2")** shall exhibit navigation lights as displayed in Figure 2.
3. A power-driven vessel when the construction was started after December 24, 1981, **less than 12 meters (39' 4 1/2")** shall exhibit those lights shown in Figures 1-4.

Note** The white, 360 degree stern light must be higher than any other part of the boat so it is visible from all directions. It can also be used as an anchor light.

Navigation Lights – Sailing Vessels

Figure 5

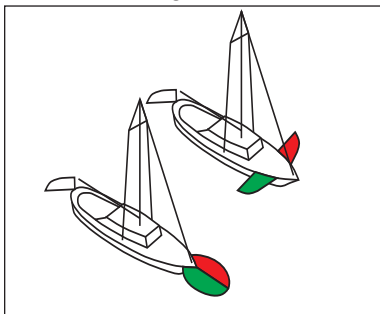


Figure 6

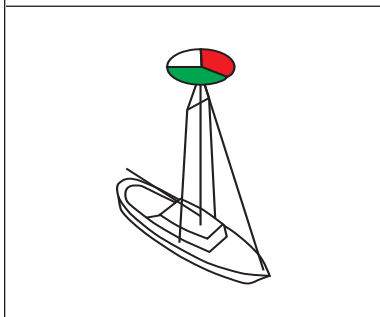
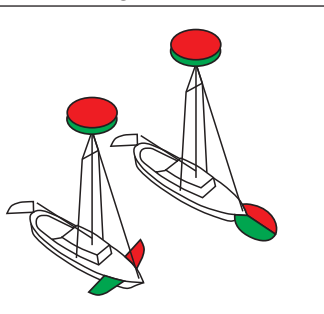


Figure 7

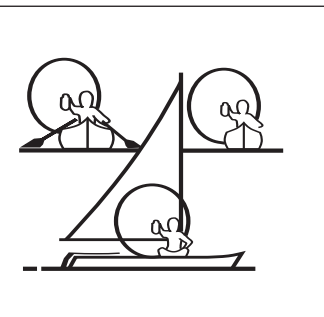


Figure 8

International

1. A sailing vessel of **less than 12 meters (39' 4 1/2") in length** shall exhibit navigation lights shown in either Figures 5, 6 or 7.
2. A sailing vessel of **less than 12 meters (39' 4 1/2") or more in length** shall exhibit navigation lights shown in either Figures 5 or 6
3. A sailing vessel of **less than 7 meters (23' 11 1/2") in length** shall, if practicable, exhibit those lights prescribed for sailing vessels **less than 12 meters**, but if she does not, she shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision. (See Figure 8)
4. **A vessel under oars** may display those lights prescribed for sailing vessels, but if she does not, she shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision. (See Figure 8)

Inland

1. A sailing vessel, **under sail alone**, shall exhibit navigation lights as displayed in either Figures 5, 6 or 7.
2. A sailing vessel of **less than 7 meters (23' 11 1/2") in length** shall, if practicable, exhibit those lights prescribed in (Figure 5 or 7) of this section, but if she does not, she shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision. (See Figure 8)
3. **A vessel under oars** may exhibit the lights prescribed in this section for sailing vessels, but if she does not, she shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision. (See Figure 8)

SUMMARY OF VIRGINIA BOATING EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS				
Items	Boats Under 16 Feet	16 to Less Than 26 Feet	26 to Less Than 40 Feet	40-65 Feet
Personal Flotation Devices	On all boats, there must be one wearable Type I, II, III or Type V (Hybrid) PFD for each person on board. In addition to the wearable PFDs, all boats (with some exceptions) must carry one throwable Type IV PFD. Wearable PFDs must be readily accessible. The Type IV must be immediately available. See pages 9 -11 for specific details.			
Fire Extinguishers A fixed, fire-extinguish- ing system installed in machinery spaces replaces one approved B-1 type portable fire extinguisher.	One B-1 type USCG approved hand portable fire extinguisher required on all inboards and all outboards under 26 feet with any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> closed compartment under thwarts and seats wherein portable fuel tanks may be stored; double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation material; closed living spaces; closed stowage compartment in which combustible or flammable materials are stowed; and/or permanently installed fuel tanks. 	Two B-1 type USCG approved portable fire extinguishers OR One B-2 type USCG approved fire extinguisher	Three or more B-1 type USCG approved portable fire extinguishers OR One or more B-1 type AND one B-2 type USCG approved fire extinguishers	
Bell, Whistle	Vessels between 39.4 ft. and 65.6 ft. must carry both a bell and a whistle. The opening of the bell should be at least 7.87 inches in diameter. The sound of the whistle must be audible for 1/2 nauti- cal mile.			Any boat less than 39.4 ft. must carry an effective, sound-pro- ducing device to comply with navigation rules requiring sound signals to be made under certain circumstances.

SUMMARY OF VIRGINIA BOATING EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS				
Items	Boats Under 16 Feet	16 to Less Than 26 Feet	26 to Less Than 40 Feet	40-65 Feet
Visual Distress Signals (Applies to all coastal water and those rivers 2 miles or more wide at the mouth and up to the first point the river narrows to less than 2 miles.)	When operating between sunset and sunrise, you must have on board USCG approved visual distress signals suitable for night use.	Must have on board USCG approved distress signals for day and night use. This could include 3 specifically for day use and 3 specifically for night use or 3 that are a combination day/night use. For pyrotechnic devices, this includes hand-held or aerial red flares, floating or hand-held orange smoke, and launchers for aerial meteors or parachute flares. Visual distress devices must be in serviceable condition with active dates and stowed within reach. Manually propelled sailboats less than 26 ft. and other manually propelled boats are required to carry only night signals.		
Ventilation (Boats built before August 1, 1980.)	For boats built after April 25, 1940 and before August 1, 1980 (with engines using gasoline as fuel and other fuels having a flashpoint of 110 degrees Fahrenheit or less), the bilges of each closed engine and fuel compartment must have at least 2 ventilation ducts fitted with cowls or their equivalent to properly ventilate the fuel area. There must be at least 1 exhaust duct installed so as to extend to the lower portion of the bilge and at least 1 intake duct installed so as to extend to a point at least midway to the bilge or at least below the level of the carburetor air intake.			
Ventilation (Boats built after July 31, 1980.)	No person may operate a boat built after July 31, 1980 that has a gasoline engine for electrical generation, mechanical power or propulsion, unless it is equipped with an operable ventilation system that meets the requirements of 33 CFR 183.610 and 183.620.			
Backfire Flame Arrestor	For inboard and combination inboard/outboard gasoline engines installed after April 25, 1940, an approved backfire flame arrestor must be installed on each carburetor. The carburetor device must be marked to show compliance with SAEJ-1928 or UL 1111 Standards.			

Speed Laws

“No Wake”

1. “No wake” is defined as the slowest possible speed required to maintain steerage and headway.
2. It shall be unlawful to operate any motorboat greater than no wake speed when within 50 feet or less of docks, piers, boathouses, boat ramps and people in the water. This definition does not prohibit the pulling of a skier with a rope of less than 50 feet.

Slacken Speed

Operators shall reduce speed to avoid endangering persons or property by the effect of the motorboat’s wake when approaching or passing vessels under way, lying to, at anchor, or made fast to the shore; or, when approaching or passing piers, docks, or boathouses; or when approaching or passing persons in the water or using water skis or surfboards.

Safe Speed

A safe speed is a speed less than the maximum at which the operator can take proper and effective action to avoid collision and stop within a distance appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions.

In establishing a safe operating speed, the operator shall take into account: visibility, traffic density, ability to maneuver the vessel (stopping distance and turning ability), background light at night, proximity of navigational hazards, draft of the vessel, limitations of radar equipment, and the state of wind, sea and current.

Unsafe Practices

It is unlawful to allow any person to ride or sit on the bow, gunwales, transom, or on the decking over the bow of the vessel while under power unless such motorboat is provided with adequate guards or railing to prevent passengers from falls overboard. Passengers or other persons aboard a watercraft may occupy these areas of the vessel to moor or anchor the watercraft, to cast off, or for any other necessary purpose.

Navigation Rules

Most boating accidents are the result of collision, either between two vessels, or between a vessel and a fixed or submerged object. For this reason, boat operators are cautioned to follow the established Navigation Rules, especially maintaining a proper lookout and safe speed.

The boat operator is responsible for knowing and following all of the applicable navigational rules. Copies of the rules may be obtained from the Superintendent of

Right Side = Starboard
Left Side = Port

Head-on (bow to bow)

When **two power-driven vessels** are meeting on reciprocal or nearly reciprocal courses so as to involve risk of collision **each** shall alter her course to starboard (right) so that each shall pass on the port side of the other. A head-on situation exists when a vessel sees the other ahead or nearly ahead and by night she could see the masthead lights of the other in a line or nearly in a line or both sidelights.

Give-way and Stand-on Vessels

“Give-way” means every vessel directed to keep out of the way of another vessel must, so far as possible, take early and substantial action to keep well clear.

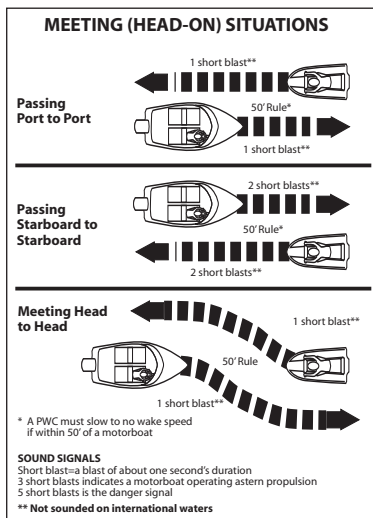
“Stand-on” means when one of two vessels is to keep out of the way, the other (stand-on) shall keep course and speed, except however, the stand-on vessel may take action to avoid collision by maneuvering alone, as soon as it becomes apparent that the vessel required to keep out of the way is not taking appropriate action as required and may take such action as will best aid to avoid collision.

If the stand-on vessel must take action to avoid a collision, it must avoid turning to port for a vessel on her port side.

An action taken to avoid a collision needs to be positive, made in ample time and large enough to be apparent to the other vessel. A succession of small alterations of course or speed is to be avoided. If necessary to avoid a collision or allow more time to assess the situation, a vessel must slacken her speed or take all way off by stopping or reversing engines.

If there is any doubt as to whether or not a risk of collision exists, always default to the risk existing. In determining if risk of collision exists, take the following considerations into account; such a risk exists if the compass bearing of an approaching vessel does not appreciably change and that such risk may sometimes exist even when the appreciable bearing change is evident, particularly when approaching a very large vessel or a tow or when approaching a vessel at close range.

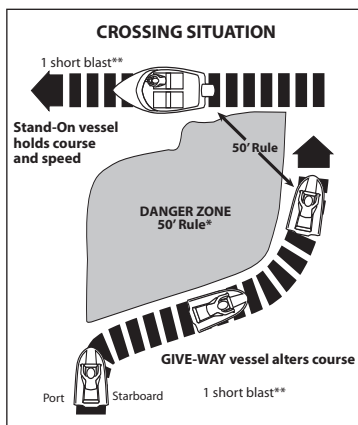
Power boats must “stay out of the way” of a sailing vessel regardless of the angle the power-driven vessel approaches the sailing vessel.



Crossing

When **two power-driven vessels** are crossing so as to involve risk of collision, the vessel which has the other on her starboard side shall keep out of the way and shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid crossing ahead (in front) of the other vessel.

When taking action to stay out of the way, make it early, substantial and well clear of the other boat. Avoid making a succession of small alterations of course or speed. If you are directed by the Rules to stay out of the way, then make your turn large and obvious so as to be readily apparent to another vessel both visually or by radar. This is especially true at night, when the only visual indication of your course change is the alteration of your boat's lights.

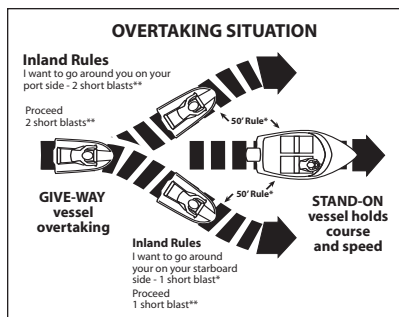


Overtaking

Any vessel overtaking any other shall keep out of the way of the vessel being overtaken.

When a vessel is in any doubt as to whether it is overtaking another, it shall assume that this is the case and act accordingly.

If you are being overtaken (passed), you need to maintain your course and speed. The vessel overtaking you should notify an intent to pass by making an appropriate sound signal. One short blast of the horn or whistle means "I intend to overtake you on your starboard side" and 2-short blasts means "I intend to overtake you on your port side".



When **two sailing vessels** are approaching one another, so as to involve risk of collision, one of them shall keep out of the way of the other as follows:

When each has the wind on a different side, the vessel which has the wind on the port side shall keep out of the way of the other;

When both have the wind on the same side, the vessel which is to windward shall keep out of the way of the vessel which is to leeward; and

If a vessel with the wind on the port side sees a vessel to windward and cannot determine with certainty whether the other vessel has the wind on the port or on the starboard side, she shall keep out of the way of the other.

Windward side is deemed to be the side opposite to that on which the mainsail is carried.

Restricted Visibility

The following rule applies to vessels not in sight of one another when navigating in or near an area of restricted visibility:

Proceed at a Safe Speed adapted to the prevailing circumstances and conditions of restricted visibility. A power-driven vessel shall have engines ready for immediate maneuver.

A vessel which detects by radar alone the presence of another vessel shall determine if a close-quarter situation is developing or risk of collision exists. If so, take avoiding action in ample time, provided that when such action consists of an alteration of course, so far as possible the following shall be avoided:

An alteration of course to port for a vessel forward of the beam, other than for a vessel being overtaken; or

An alteration of course toward a vessel abeam (to the side) or abaft (behind) the beam.

Except where it has been determined that a risk of collisions does not exist, every vessel which hears apparently forward of her beam the fog signal of another vessel, or which cannot avoid a close-quarter situation with another vessel forward of her beam, shall reduce her speed to the minimum at which she can be kept on course. She shall if necessary take all way off (slow down or stop) and in any event, navigate with extreme caution until danger of collision is over.

Sound Signals for Restricted Visibility

Whistle means any sound producing device capable of producing a blast.

Short Blast = a blast of about 1 second.

Prolonged Blast = a blast of from 4-6 seconds' duration.

In or near an area of restricted visibility, whether by day or night, the following sound signals shall be made:

Power-driven vessel making way through the water – one prolonged blast at least once every 2 minutes.

Power-driven vessel drifting and making no way through the water – one prolonged blast and two short blasts at least once every 2 minutes.

Sailing vessel, whether underway or at anchor, shall sound one-prolonged blast followed by two-short blast at least once every 2 minutes.



Responsibility Between Vessels

Except where otherwise required:

A power-driven vessel shall keep out of the way of:

- A vessel not under command;
- A vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver;
- A vessel engaged in (commercial) fishing;
- A sailing vessel.

A sailing vessel shall keep out of the way of:

- A vessel not under command;
- A vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver;
- A vessel engaged in (commercial) fishing.

Departure From Regulations to Avoid Immediate Danger

In obeying and construing the navigation rules, due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigating and collision and to any special circumstances which may render a departure from these rules necessary in order to avoid immediate danger. When, from any cause the vessel required to keep its course and speed finds itself so close that collision cannot be avoided by the action of the give-way vessel alone, the operator shall take such action as will best aid to avoid collision. This action does not relieve the give-way vessel of its obligation to keep out of the way. The give-way vessel is that vessel required to take early and substantial action to keep well away from other vessels by stopping, slowing or changing course.

Narrow Channels

In narrow channels, the operator of every vessel shall, when it is safe and practicable, keep to that side of the fairway or mid-channel which lies on the right side of such vessel. The operator of a vessel under 65.6 feet in length underway, fishing or at anchor in narrow channels shall not interfere with the passage of large, deep-draft vessels that can safely navigate only inside such channels.

Exoneration

No operator is exonerated from the consequences of any neglect to carry and display navigation lights as required by law; or of any neglect to keep a proper lookout, or of the neglect of any reasonable precaution which may be required by the ordinary practice of good seamanship or by the special circumstances of the case.

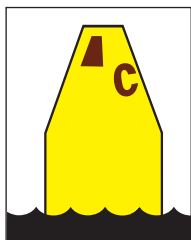
A full copy of the Navigation Rules, published by the US Coast Guard, is available at <http://www.uscg.mil/vtm/navrules/navrules.pdf> or by contacting the Government Printing Office.

Aids to Navigation

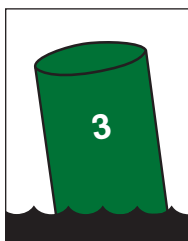
Buoys are the most familiar aids to navigation – they're the signposts of the water. Here's how they work: entering a channel or river from open water, buoys on the right (starboard) are painted red and are even numbered starting from the mouth. Buoys on the left (port) side of the channel are green buoys with odd numbers. Stay between the red and green buoys and keep to the right of the channel.

Buoys marking mid-channel have red and white vertical stripes; those marking obstructions or junctions are striped horizontally red or green with the top band marking the best channel. Red top: keep buoy on your right. Green top: keep buoy on your left. Remember: RRR for "Red Right Returning." Returning means going upstream, or coming from the ocean.

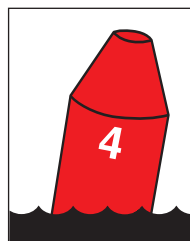
FLOATING CHANNEL MARKERS



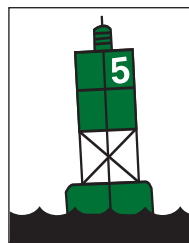
Special Buoy
(Yellow)
Shape Optional.
Used as marks when
red and green buoys
are inappropriate.



Can Buoy (Green)
Keep buoy to left
going upstream.



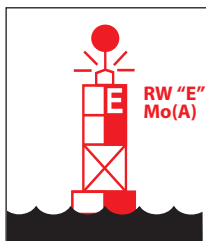
Nun Buoy (Red)
Keep buoy to right
going upstream.



Lighted, whistle, bell, horn or gong buoy—
may be red, green or yellow.

Boaters may only tie up to designated mooring buoys. Do not tie up to any other type of navigational buoy or other aids to navigation.

ADDITIONAL MARKERS

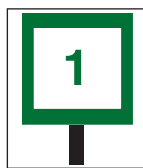


Lighted (White Light)
Mid-channel Buoy—
Pass close either side
or unlighted red and
white, vertically
striped, spherical
buoy.



Channel Junction
Buoy (Red Top)—Keep
buoy to right going
upstream. (Keep
Green Top buoy to
left.)

STATIONARY CHANNEL MARKERS



Daymark



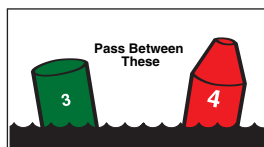
Daymark



Daymark

UNIFORM STATE WATERWAY MARKING SYSTEM

It is unlawful to place unauthorized regulatory markers on or near the public waters.



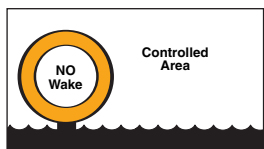
Opposite green and red
buoys mark channel



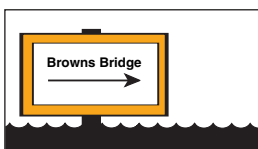
Diamond with wording



Diamond with cross



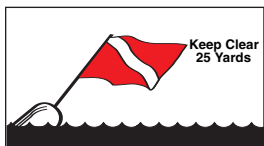
Explanation in circle



Square or rectangle for
information



Blue banded white buoy



Skin or scuba diver



Vessel attending divers

Scuba divers or snorkelers must display "Diver Down" flag that marks their area and boats must maintain distance of 25 yards or more from any displayed diver down flag.

Personal Watercraft (PWC) Regulations

A personal watercraft is a motorboat less than 16 feet in length which uses an inboard motor powering a jet pump as its primary motive power and which is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on, rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel.



1. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a PWC, or the owner or any person having control to authorize or knowingly permit a person to operate a PWC, unless the operator is at least 16 years of age, except any person age 14 or 15 may operate a PWC if they have successfully completed an approved boating education safety course, carry proof of successful completion of such course, and show this proof upon request by a law enforcement officer.
2. It is unlawful to operate a PWC unless the operator, each rider and anyone being towed by a PWC is wearing a Type I, II, III, or V USCG approved personal flotation device. Inflatables are prohibited.
3. If the PWC is equipped with a lanyard-type engine cut-off switch, the operator must attach the lanyard to his person, clothing, or personal flotation device.
4. It is unlawful to operate a PWC after sunset or before sunrise.
5. It is unlawful to operate a PWC while carrying passengers in excess of the number for which the craft was designed by the manufacturer.
6. A person shall be guilty of reckless operation who operates any PWC recklessly so as to endanger the life, limb, or property of any person, which shall include, but not be limited to: (1) weaving through other vessels which are underway, stopped, moored or anchored while exceeding a reasonable speed; (2) following another vessel or skier, crossing the path of another vessel or skier, crossing the path of another vessel more closely than is reasonable and prudent; (3) crossing between the towing vessel and a skier; or (4) steering toward an object or person and turning sharply in close proximity to such object or person in order to spray or attempt to spray an object or person with the wash or jet spray of the PWC.
7. PWC operators must maintain "no wake" operation when within 50 feet or less of docks, piers, boathouses, boat ramps, people in the water and **vessels other than PWCs**. PWCs may tow a skier with a rope less than 50 feet. No wake is defined as "The slowest possible speed required to maintain steerage and headway".

The above provisions do not apply to participants in regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions approved by the Board of the DGIF or the USCG.

Water Skiing Safety

The boating law contains several provisions relating to the towing of persons on water skis, aquaplanes, and similar devices; and the manipulation of such devices by the person being towed. This is especially important when towing people from a small boat, such as a PWC.

1. All boats towing a water skier(s) or other persons on towed devices **MUST** have **ONE** of the following:
 - a. Persons being towed must be wearing a USCG approved PFD or
 - b. There must be an observer on the boat (in addition to the operator) who is in a position to observe the progress of the skier.
2. A person(s) being towed on water skis or other device may not operate in a reckless or dangerous manner.
3. A person(s) being towed on water skis or other device may not operate while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, including prescription narcotics and illegal drugs.
4. The operator of the boat towing a water skier(s) or person(s) on another towing device may not manipulate or control the boat so as to cause the person(s) being towed to collide with any object or person.
5. Water skiing (or towing of people on other devices) is allowed only between one-half before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Check the official sunrise and sunset times for your area.



Towing Another Boat

Special care is required for towing because the towline can get tangled around the propeller shaft of the towboat. Poly line is good because it floats. At night, shine a spotlight on the towline to reduce the chance of another boat hitting it.

Motorboats underway in conditions of reduced visibility, towing or pushing, give one prolonged horn or whistle blast followed by two short blasts every two minutes. The towed vessel immediately follows the towboat sound signal with one prolonged blast followed by three short blasts.

Enforcement

Boating laws are enforced primarily by Game Wardens employed by DGIF. These officers have full police powers and have the right to lawfully stop and board your boat at any time to check for proper registration and required safety equipment.

Unlawful Acts

- Reckless operation of boat, water skis or aquaplane.
- Operating, while intoxicated, a boat, aquaplane or water skis.
- Operating or giving permission to operate an unregistered motorboat.
- Operating or giving permission to operate a boat with an expired Certificate of Number.
- Operating a motorboat with number improperly displayed.
- Operating a boat with unauthorized number displayed.
- Failing to carry the Certificate of Number on board or refusing to show it to inspecting officers.
- Operating a registered motorboat more than 90 days in Virginia without registering it here.
- Failing to report a change of address of a registered motorboat owner within 15 days.
- Failure to report loss or abandonment of a registered boat within 15 days.
- Failure to exhibit lights as required by law between sunset and sunrise.
- A vessel operator failing to stop, render assistance, give name and address at the scene of an accident or failing to file an accident report within 10 days.
- Towing a water skier not wearing a USCG approved life preserver without an observer in the boat.
- Operating a motorboat without a muffled exhaust or with a cutout on the exhaust.
- Failure to obey regulatory water markers.
- Operating a motorboat or skis in an area designated for swimming.
- Engaging in snorkeling or scuba diving in waters open to boating without displaying a flag (no boat shall approach closer than 25 yards when flag displayed).
- Depositing, throwing, or discharging refuse of any kind into the water.
- Certain PWC operation. (See page 27.)



Homeland Security

Do not approach within 100 yards of any U.S. naval vessel. If you need to pass within 100 yards of a U.S. naval vessel in order to ensure a safe passage in accordance with the Navigation Rules, you must contact the U.S. naval vessel or the Coast Guard escort vessel on VHF-FM channel 16.

You must operate at minimum speed within 500 yards of any U.S. naval vessel and proceed as directed by the Commanding Officer or the official patrol.

National Weather Service

Tidewater/Richmond/Chesapeake Bay area – (757) 899-4200.

Washington D.C. area – (703) 260-0107.

Environmental Laws

Pollution

It is illegal for anyone to pollute our waterways in Virginia. If you can't recycle it, take it ashore to a trash receptacle. Please help keep the waterways clean by picking up your trash. If you see any source or indication of water pollution, such as dead fish, call your local Health Department, or call the Richmond office of the Virginia Department of Health at 804-786-1761.

The Marine Environment

Nuisance aquatic species, such as zebra mussels and hydrilla, can spread quickly, replace native species and damage water resources. Properly cleaning boats and equipment after each use can prevent the spread of invasive marine species.

Submersed aquatic vegetation (or SAV) are underwater plants often found in shallow (usually less than 6 feet) areas. They are important habitat for fish and shellfish, particularly the blue crab, and are a food source for several waterfowl species. Scientific studies have shown that SAV beds can be scarred by boat propellers or by larger craft if they run aground. When operating your boat in shallow areas, particularly at low tide, be careful to avoid damaging SAV.

Sea Turtle and Marine Mammal Encounters

While boating in Virginia, you may encounter sea turtles, which are common in the summer months in the coastal ocean, Chesapeake Bay, and associated river mouths, and marine mammals (whales, dolphins, porpoises, manatees and seals), which are most common in the coastal ocean and Chesapeake Bay mouth, but can occur inside the Bay and associated river mouths as well. Sea turtles are protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and marine mammals are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Guidelines for approaching dolphins and sea turtles suggest that vessels stay at least 50 feet away and cut the engine or remain in neutral if the animals approach you. Large whales such as humpback and fin whales can also be seen in the Chesapeake Bay and ocean waters off Virginia. Vessels are asked to remain at least 300 feet from these endangered whales. Occasionally manatees are sighted in Virginia waters. Vessel operators should avoid approaching manatees as they are critically endangered and susceptible to vessel strikes. Be a responsible vessel operator and allow Virginia's sea turtles and marine mammals to exist undisturbed in our waters, their natural habitat.

Boating Accident Reporting

As the operator of a vessel, you are required by law to file a formal, written report of your boating accident with the DGIF under certain circumstances.

When a Report is Required

A formal, written report must be filed with DGIF when there is:

- Damage over \$2000 by or to the vessel or its equipment;
- Injury (requiring medical help beyond First Aid) or loss of life; and/or
- Disappearance of any person from a vessel.

To inform Law Enforcement about an accident that has just occurred, please call your county or city law enforcement group, sheriff's office, Game Warden, or Department dispatcher (804-367-1258).

When a person dies or disappears as a result of an occurrence that involves a vessel or its equipment, the operator is required by law to notify the DGIF in Richmond, Virginia, or the most immediately available Department Game Warden without delay and by the quickest means possible.

Time Frame for Reporting

Written reports must be filed within the following time frames from the boating accident:

- 48 hours if a person dies within 24 hours of the accident;
- 48 hours if a person involved is injured and cannot perform usual activities;
- 48 hours if a person disappears from a vessel;
- 10 days if an earlier report is not required but becomes necessary; and/or
- 10 days if the boat or property damage is in excess of \$2000 or total boat loss.

How to File a Written Accident Report

Boating Accident Report forms are obtained from local law enforcement authorities, Department Game Wardens, DGIF Web site, and all Department offices. You may submit the completed forms in person or send them to the Law Enforcement Division-

Boating Accident, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, 4010 W. Broad St., P.O. Box 11104, Richmond, Virginia, 23230-1104. The boat operator or owner usually completes the form unless she/he is physically unable to do so.

Duty to Stop and Render Assistance

It is the duty of every operator involved in a collision to stop and offer assistance. Operators involved in a collision, who knowingly fail to comply with this law when the collision or accident results in serious bodily injury to, or the death of, any person, shall be guilty of a Class 6 Felony. When a collision or accident results in only property damage, the operator who does not comply with this law shall be guilty of a Class 1 Misdemeanor.

Boat Theft Prevention

Equipment Identification

Boat owners should mark all equipment when purchased. Many local law enforcement agencies will loan an engraver for this purpose. Engrave a unique identification number and the state's abbreviation in a concealed area. These identification numbers will assist law enforcement officers in tracing stolen merchandise back to the owner.

If your boat was built before 1972, it may not have a hull identification number. Since most registration numbers can be removed easily, it is a good idea to inscribe that registration number onto some unexposed location on the interior of your boat. This works well for backup identification.

Document It

Make a complete inventory of your marine equipment, boat and trailer. In the event of any type of loss, this information will prove invaluable in making a prompt, accurate report for law enforcement and insurance personnel.

Photograph or videotape the interior and exterior of your vessel showing all installed equipment and additional gear. Date and sign the photographs and add any clarifying or identifying messages. Store the photographs in a safe place, **not in the boat**.

Store It

When securing the vessel, take home as much gear as possible, including TVs, radios. CBs, small outboard engines and other gear. There may be some equipment which must be left on the vessel. Rather than leaving it around the cabin, lock equipment inside when you leave. A secure boat cover would also help. Out of sight—out of mind!

Outboard motors, especially the larger ones, may be impractical to remove. Adding an outboard motor lock can make them more secure.

Trailerable Boats

Stealing a boat is much easier if a thief can hitch up to your boat on a trailer and drive away. These tips may help.

- If possible, store the boat and trailer in a locked garage, secured boat-storage facility or mini-storage stall.
- Boats stored at home may be put in the back or side yard out of sight.
- Store the boat with the trailer tongue not easily accessible.
- If storing a boat in an open driveway, carport or open side-lot, park another vehicle or other large object in front of the trailer.
- Remove one trailer wheel.
- Store the spare tire in an automobile, truck or secure it to the trailer with a chain and lock.
- Secure the boat and trailer to a permanent object with a good quality chain and lock.
- Purchase a good quality trailer hitch lock and use it—even if stored inside.
- When it is necessary to leave your boat along the shoreline during an extended outing, remove the outboard motor or secure it with a transom lock.

Vessel Security

There are several things that can be done to reduce the risk of vessel theft.

Marine Hatch—Marine dealers carry special exterior hatch locks. When fastened with a quality padlock, one of these improves security. Depending on the type of boat, it may be possible to add or substitute hinges for improved security.

Forward Hatch—Special interior hatch fasteners, or even a padlock can be added. These should be unlocked when the boat is in use.

Windows—For sliding windows, place a length of doweling in the track to prevent the window from being forced open. Locksmiths and hardware dealers also carry a variety of special, small locks and fasteners which can be used to increase the security of other types of windows.

There are many systems which can be installed on boats. Care should be taken to select one designed for marine use—one that is resistant to water, salt and humidity with a reset function.

Report It

If your boat, trailer or gear is missing, report it immediately to the following groups. Use your written and photographic marine record to give specific and complete information.

- Local law enforcement agencies.
- Your insurance company.
- Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.
- The dock or harbormaster.
- Neighboring boaters.
- Local newspapers.

When Buying a Boat

- Be careful when buying a boat because it could be stolen.
- Be certain that the boat's description on the title matches the boat you are buying. Check year, make, length and hull identification number.
- Be sure the model and serial number on an outboard motor have not been removed, tampered with or altered.
- Be suspicious of a fresh paint job on a late model vessel.
- When buying a used vessel, try to deal with a reputable marine dealer or a broker licensed by the state.
- If the price seems too good to be true, there is a good chance that the boat is stolen.

Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that can be toxic in small quantities. It is produced by engines, generators, grills and other equipment commonly used by boaters. Every year people who recreate on and around boats are overcome by the effects of carbon monoxide.



Recreational boaters need to be aware of carbon monoxide poisoning prevention practices such as regular professional boat inspections; the installation and maintenance of carbon dioxide detectors in living spaces; the hazards of “teak surfing; exhaust leaks from CO sources, specific boat design features of concern (especially houseboats); and the danger of swimming near the stern of the watercraft while generators, engines or other carbon monoxide producing equipment is in operation.

Capsizings and Falls Overboard

Capsizings and falls overboard are the leading cause of fatal boating incidents. To help lessen the chance of capsizing or falling overboard, follow these basic safety tips:

- * Always wear your life jacket.
- * Stay low in the boat and maintain 3 points of contact. Keep 2 feet and 1 hand, or 2 hands and 1 foot in contact with the boat at all times. If seated, you have one point of contact on the seat, and still need to maintain 2 others - such as 1 foot, 1 hand, 2 feet, etc.
- * When loading supplies into a boat, have one person get into the boat and then hand that person the supplies.
- * If retrieving an item from the water, maneuver the boat close to the object and use a boathook or paddle. If you do need to reach outside the hull of the boat, keep 3-points of contact.
- * Keep an even, balanced load.
- * Do not attach the anchor line to the stern of the boat.
- * When pulling up the anchor, stay low in the boat and well balanced.
- * If in rough waters, head the bow of the boat anywhere from directly into the seas up to a 45 degree angle depending on sea state and vessel construction.
- * Follow the information stated on the “Capacity Label”. Never exceed the allowable weight, horsepower rating, or maximum number of people.

Boating Education Information

If you are interested in registering for a safe boating course, please visit the DGIF Web site for a complete list of available courses or call VDGIF at (804) 367-1125.

The DGIF also supports NASBLA approved boating courses offered by the USCG Auxiliary (USCGAux) and the U.S. Power Squadrons (USPS). For information about classes with the USPS or USCGAux, call 1-800-245-2628.

To arrange a free vessel safety check, please call 1-800-245-2628 or contact local USCG Auxiliary or USPS member.

For a complete up-to-date list of boating safety education course offerings and boating safety information, visit our Web site at <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov>.



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Lake Horsepower Limits

Lake	Limit
Anna	unlimited
Back Bay	unlimited
Bannister	unlimited
Briery Creek	10 HP
Buggs Island	unlimited
Burnt Mills	12 HP
Chesdin	unlimited
Chickahominy	unlimited
Claytor	unlimited
Cohoon	10 HP
Drummond	10 HP
Emporia	10 HP
Ft. Pickett Lakes	35 HP
Flannagan	unlimited
Gaston	unlimited
Gordon	10 HP
Harrison	5 HP

Lake	Limit
Kilby	10 HP
Leesville	unlimited
Lunga	10 HP
Meade	10 HP
Moomaw	unlimited
North Fork Pound	unlimited
Nottoway	10 HP
Occoquan	10 HP
Philpott	unlimited
Prince	12 HP
Sandy River	10 HP
Smith [Virginia Beach]	12 HP
Smith Mountain	unlimited
Speight's Run	10 HP
South Holston	unlimited
Western Branch	12 HP
Whitehurst	12 HP

Note: While some lakes have unlimited horsepower, they may have speed limits. Most lakes not listed are “Electric Motors Only,” but a few small city or county lakes have “No Boat” regulations. Check local regulations.



Boat Ramps and Access Points

DGIF managed public boat access facilities are to be used for parking vehicles/trailers while boating and fishing, and are provided for this purpose only. Camping, Swimming, Sunbathing, Loitering, or any other use of the property, other than launching or retrieving boats and/or fishing is prohibited and considered trespassing. Public display of alcoholic beverages is prohibited. PWC staging on, or adjacent to, the boat ramp is prohibited. Littering, Dumping and Destruction of State Property Laws will be strictly enforced on these properties.

Key: () = miles **R** = Right **L** = Left

Types of Access: **R** = Concrete **RS** = Shallow Water **BS** = Boat Slide **SA** = Shoreline Access

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Accomack	Messongo Creek	Hammock	N	R	1	From Temperanceville, Rt 13 Turn W, Rt 695 (9.5), Turn S, Rt 788 (1 Mi.)
Accomack	Pungoteague Creek	Harborton	Y	R	2	From Pungoteague, West On Rt. 180 (3) To Harborton. Access At End Of Rt. 180
Accomack	Queen Sound Channel	Queen Sound	N	R	1	On Rt 175 To Chincoteague From Wallop Station, * Very Limited Parking
Albemarle	Beaver Creek Lake	Beaver Creek Lake	N	R	1	From Charlottsville, Rt 250 West (7); R On Rt 680 To Lake
Albemarle	James River	Scottsville	Y	R	1	Town Of Scottsville, Ferry Street
Albemarle	Lake Albemarle	Lake Albemarle	Y	R	1	From Charlottsville, Rt 601 West (4.7); L On 676 (1.1); R On Rt 614 (3.8); L On Rt 675 (2.7)
Alleghany	Jackson River	Indian Draft	N	SA	0	From Covington, N, Rt.220, Left Rt. 687 @ Clear,Pk, (3 Mi. On E Side)
Alleghany	Jackson River	Johnson Spring	N	SA	0	From Covington, N Rt 220, Left Rt. 687, Clear,Pk, S,Rt 638 Nat.Well 1/2m)
Alleghany	Jackson River	Petticoat Junction	N	BS	0	From Covington, N, Rt 220, Left Rt. 687 At Clear,Pk -1 Mi On Left
Alleghany	Lake Moomaw	Lake Moomaw (Coles Point)	Y	R	1	From Covington, Rt 60 West (4); R On Rt 600 (9.5)
Amelia	Amelia County Lake	Amelia Lake (WMA)	Y	R	1	From Rt 360, Rt 604 North (4.9);L On Rt 616 (1.4); R On Rt 652 (.9) To WMA
Amherst	James River	Monocan Park	N	R	1	From Elon On Rt 130, Rt 652 South (2.7)
Amherst	James River	Snowden	N	R	1	From Snowden, Rt 501/130 East Cross Over Rocky Roe Run (1)
Amherst	Mill Creek Reservoir	Mill Creek	Y	R	1	From Amherst, Northwest On Rt 645 (9.5)

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Amherst	Stone House Creek Lake	Stone House Creek	N	R	1	From Amherst West, Rt 60 West (6); R On 778 (2.4); L On Rt 610 (.3); R On Rt 625 (.3); L On Rt 830
Amherst	Thrasher's Creek Lake	Thrasher's Creek	N	R	1	From Amherst, Rt 60 North (8); R On Rt 610 (1.5); L On Rt 617 (.5); L On Rt 829 (.4)
Appomattox	James River	Bent Creek	N	R	1	At Bent Creek At The Intersection Of Rt 60 And Rt 26
Arlington, City	Potomac River	Gravelly Point	Y	R	2	George Washington Memorial Parkway, N Of National Airport
Bedford	James River	Reed Creek Landing	N	R	1	From Big Island Take 501 South, Access Adjacent To Georgia Pacific Plant On The River
Bedford	Smith Mountain Lake	Hales Ford	Y	R	1	From Moneta, Southwest On Rt 122 (4)
Bedford	Smith Mountain Lake	Hardy Ford	Y	R	2	From Stewertsville, Rt 24 West (2.4); L On Rt 635 (1.5); L On Rt 634(3.7)
Botetourt	James River	Arcadia	N	SA	0	From Buchanan, N. Rt. 11, E. Rt. 614, 1 1/2 Mi.
Botetourt	James River	Buchanan	N	RS	0	Town Of Buchanan
Botetourt	James River	Irongate	N	SA	0	From Irongate, Rt. 220
Botetourt	James River	Springwood	N	SA	0	From Buchanan, Rt 43 North (3.5); L On Rt 630 To (1); To Rt 601
Brunswick	Brunswick County Lake	Brunswick Lake	Y	R	1	From Lawrenceville, Rt 58 East (4); L On Rt 638 (2)
Brunswick	Great Creek	Great Creek Watershed	Y	R	1	From Lawrenceville. N. Rt. 46, 2 1/2 Mi; W. On Road Before School (1/2 Mi.)
Brunswick	Lake Gaston	Pea Hill	Y	R	1	From Gasburg East On Rt 626 (.9); L On Rt 705
Buckingham	Horsepen Lake	Horsepen Lake WMA	N	R	1	From Buckingham, South On Route 638 (3); L Into WMA 1 Mile To Landing
Buckingham	James River	New Canton	Y	R	1	From Arvonita Rt. 15, N. App.2 Mi, E. Rt 670, N. Beyond P.O. (1/2/Mi.)
Buckingham	Slate River Watershed	Slate River Watershed	Y	SA	0	From Sliders, North On Rt 24 (.25); R On Rt 636 (3.25); L On Rt 640 (.8) To L On Forest Rd
Campbell	James River	Joshua Falls	Y	BS	0	From Kelly On Rt 460 To N. Rt 726 (4)
Campbell	Staunton River	Alta Vista	Y	R	2	From The Town Of Altavista Take Route 688 South To Riverside Park
Campbell	Staunton River	Brookneal	N	R	1	Town Of Brookneal Off Rt 40 & 501 South
Campbell	Staunton River	Long Island	Y	R	1	Town Of Long Island Off Rt 761

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Carroll	Lovill's Creek Lake	Lovill's Creek	Y	R	1	From Rt. 52 At Nc State Line, North On Rt. 52 (1), East On Rt. 686 To Lake Entrance
Carroll	New River	Byllesby Pool	Y	R	1	From The Town Of Riverhill, N On Rt. 739 To The River
Charles City	Chickahominy River	Morris Creek	Y	R	1	Between Rt 5 & Rt 60; Rt 621 Off Rt 623 In Chickahominy WMA
Charlotte	Staunton River	Clarkton Bridge	N	R	1	From Rt40 At Womacks , S On Rt 649 To W. On Rt 619 At Harrisburg To S. Rt 620 To River
Chesapeake	Elizabeth River, South	Elizabeth River Park	Y	R	4	City Of Chesapeake, Rt 337
Chesapeake	Elizabeth River, South	Great Bridge	Y	R	1	City Of Chesapeake, Rt 168
Chesapeake	George Washington Canal	Dismal Swamp	N	R	1	City Of Chesapeake, Rt 17
Chesterfield	James River	Dutch Gap	Y	R	2	I-95 East To Rt 10 (2); L On Rt 732 (2); R On Rt 615 (1)
Chesterfield	James River	Robious Landing	Y	BS	0	From Rt. 147 & Rt. 711 (Robious Rd.), West On Rt. 711 (3), Follow Chesterfield Park, Signs To River.
Clarke	Shenandoah River	Castleman's Ferry	N	RS	0	From Berryville East On Rt 7; R On Rt 606
Clarke	Shenandoah River	Lockes	N	RS	0	From Berryville, East On Rt 7 (3);R On Rt 621 (8.4)
Clarke	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Berry's	N	RS	0	Rt 50 East Of Rt 340 (5.5)
Colonial Heights	Swift Creek	White Bank Park	Y	R	1	City Of Colonial Heights
Culpeper	Lake Pelham	Lake Pelham	Y	R	1	From Culpeper, South On Rt 29 (1.8) From Rt 15, West On Rt 718, Right On Pelham Rd.
Culpeper	Mountain Run Lake	Mountain Run Lake	Y	R	1	From Culpeper, South On Rt 29 (1.8) From Rt 15, West On Rt 718 (2) Into Park On Left
Culpeper	Rappahannock River	Kelly's Ford	Y	BS	0	From Remington, Bus Rt 15 South (.5); L On Rt 673 (2.4);L On Rt 674 (3.3);L On Rt 620 (.1)
Cumberland	James River	Cartersville	N	R	1	Town Of Cartersville On Rt 45
Cumberland	James River	Columbia	N	R	1	South Of Columbia On Rt 690
Dinwiddie	Lake Chesdin	Lake Chesdin	Y	R	2	From Petersburg, Rt 460 West (.4); R On Rt 226 (.2); R On Rt 600 (.9); L On Rt 601 (3.5); R On Rt 776 (.6)
Essex	Rappahannock River	Hoskin's Creek	N	R	1	Town Of Tappahannock, Rt T-1002 (Dock Street)

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Fairfax	Lake Burke	Lake Burke	Y	R	1	From City Of Fairfax, Rt 123 South
Fauquier	Lake Brittle	Lake Brittle	Y	R	1	From New Baltimore Rt 15 East (.3); R On Rt 600 (1.5); R On Rt 793 (1.2); R On Rt 825 (.3)
Fluvanna	Fluvanna-Ruritan Lake	Ruritan Lake	Y	R	1	From Town Of Palmyra, Rt 53 (3); L On Rt 660 (.1); R On Rt 619 (3)
Fluvanna	James River	Hardware River	N	RS	0	From Scottsville, Rt 6 East (6); R On Rt 646 (3.8)
Fluvanna	Rivanna River	Crofton	N	RS	0	From Zion Crossroads, Rt 15 South (4); R On Rt 616 (2.1); L On Rt 600 (1.5)
Fluvanna	Rivanna River	Palmyra	N	SA	0	From Town Of Palmyra, Rt 53
Franklin	Smith Mountain Lake	Penhook #9	Y	R	2	From Penhook, Rt 660 North (.8); R On Rt 966 (1.4)
Franklin	Smith Mountain Lake	Scruggs #8	Y	R	1	From Moneta Southwest On Rt 122 (7); L On Rt 616 (5.7); R On Rt 601 (2)
Frederick	Lake Frederick	Lake Frederick	Y	R	1	On Rt 340 South (1) Of Double Toll Gate
Fredericksburg	Rappahannock River	City Docks	Y	R	2	City Of Fredericksburg On Sophia Street
Giles	New River	Glen Lyn	N	RS	0	Town Of Glen Lyn On Rt 460
Giles	New River	Narrows	Y	RS	0	North Of Narrows On Rt 649
Giles	New River	Rich Creek	N	RS	0	East Of Rich Creek (.5) On Rt 460
Giles (Pembroke)	New River	Snidow Park Landing	Y	RS	0	In The Town Of Pembroke Take Snidow Road (Rt 623) South To Bridge, L Into Sindow Park
Gloucester	Planktank River	Deep Point	Y	R	1	From Glenss, Rt 198 East (7.5); L On Rt 606 (1.5)
Gloucester	Poropotank River	Tanyard	N	RS	0	From Gloucester, Rt 14 North (4.3); L On Rt 613 (3.3); R On Rt 610 (.6); L On Rt 617 (.5)
Gloucester	Ware River	Warehouse	Y	R	1	East Of Gloucester On Rt 621 (2)
Gloucester	York River	Gloucester Point	Y	R	3	Town Of Gloucester Point, Rt 1208
Goochland	James River	West View	Y	RS	0	From Goochland, Rt 6 West (3.5); L On Rt 600 (4.8); R On Rt 643 (1.2)
Grayson	New River	Baywood	N	RS	0	From Independent, Rt 58 East (6)
Grayson	New River	Bridle Creek	N	RS	0	From Independence, Rt 58 West (1.8); L On Rt 711 (3.9)

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Grayson	New River	Fries	N	RS	0	Town Of Fries On Rt. T-1001
Grayson	New River	Independence	N	RS	0	From Independence, Rt 21 South To Rt 221 (3.2); L On Rt 700 (.5)
Grayson	New River	Mouth Of Wilson	N	RS	0	East Of Mouth Of Wilson; Intersection Rt 58 & 93
Grayson	New River	Oldtown	N	RS	0	Rt 58 West; R On Rt 640 (Old Town Rd) (1); R On Rt 634 (1.3); L On Rt 641 (1.7)
Grayson	New River	Riverside	N	RS	0	Intersection Of Rt 94 & Rt 274, South Of Fries
Greensville	Meherrin Reservoir	Emporia	N	R	1	From Rt 58 In Emporia; Rt 619 South 1 Mile
Greensville	Meherrin River	Meherrin Park	Y	R	1	In Emporia, Off Of Route 301 , East On Hicksford Ave. Into Meherrin Park Road, Signs To Ramp
Greensville	Nottoway River	Jarratt	Y	RS	0	From Jarratt, Rt 630 East (2.2) To Nottoway River, Site On Left
Greensville	Nottoway River	Purdy	N	RS	0	From Jarratt, Rt. 610 West (.7); R On Rt 608 (4.4); R On Rt 651 (1.2)
Grotoes, Town	South River	Grotoes Landing	N	BS	0	From Town Of Grotoes, North On Rt. 825, West On 20th Street, Follow To Park Entrance, Road To River.
Halifax	Banister Lake	Banister Lake	N	R	1	North Of Halifax On Rt 501
Halifax	Dan River	South Boston	Y	R	1	City Of South Boston At End Of Maple Avenue
Halifax	Kerr Reservoir	Hycro	N	R	1	From South Boston, Rt 58 East (8)
Halifax	Lake Connor	Lake Connor	Y	R	1	From Clover, Rt 746 North (4); L On Rt 603 (2.6); R On Rt 619 (2.19); R On Rt 623 (1.3); R On Rt 624 (1.5)
Halifax	Staunton River	Clover	N	R	1	From Clover, Rt 360 East (3.5)
Halifax	Staunton River	Watkins Bridge	N	R	1	From Clover, Rt 746 North (8.5)
Hampton	Back River	Fox Hill	Y	R	3	North (1) Of Fox Hill At End Of Dandy Point Road
Hanover	Pamunkey River	Little Page Bridge	Y	BS	0	From Hanover, North On Rt 301 (2)
Hanover	South Anna River	Patrick Henry	Y	BS	0	From Ashland , West On Rt 54 (4.5)
Hanover	South Anne River	Ground Squirrel Bridge	Y	BS	0	From Rt. 33 At Farrington, Northwest On Rt. 33 (2.25) To Access At River On Right.
Henrico	James River	Deep Bottom	Y	R	2	South (8) Of Seven Pines On Deep Bottom Road

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Henrico	James River	Osborne Pike Landing	Y	R	6	Intersection Of Kingsland Road And Osborne Turnpike
Isle Of Wight	Blackwater River	Joyner's Bridge	N	R	1	From Franklin, Bus Rt 258 East (5); L Of Rt 611 (2,3)
Isle Of Wight	Jones Creek	Jones Creek	Y	R	2	From Rt 17, West On 669 (.5), West On Rt 665 (1.5) , Turn Left Into Jones Creek Landing
James City	Dasound Creek Reservoir	Dasound Landing	Y	R	1	From Rt. 60 At Norge, West On Rt. 60 (8), North On Rt. 603 (0.5) To Access On Right.
King And Queen	Mattaponi River	Melrose	Y	R	1	From King & Queen C.H., Rt. 14 South (2.8); R On Rt 602 (1.2) To Ramp
King And Queen	Mattaponi River	Waterfence	Y	R	1	From West Point, Rt 33 East
King William	Mattaponi River	Aylett	Y	R	1	Aylett, Rt 360 East, R Onto Rt. 600
King William	Mattaponi River	West Point	Y	R	2	Town Of West Point On Rt. 33
King William	Pamunkey River	Lestor Manor	Y	R	1	From King William C.H., Rt. 30 South (.7);R On Rt 633 (7.4);L On Rt 672 (.4)
Lancaster	Greenvale Creek	Greenvale Creek	Y	R	1	From Lively Rt.-3, S. Rt 201, E. Rt. 354, S. Foll. Rt 624 Mullosk (1/2mi.)
Lee	Lake Keokee	Lake Keokee	Y	R	1	Rt. 624 South Of Keokee
Loudoun	Potomac River	Mckimney (Point Of Rocks)	Y	Rs	0	Point Of Rocks, Rt 672
Lunenburg	Nottoway River	The Falls	N	R	1	Northeast On Rt 49, (4) Of Victoria
Mathews	Putin Creek	Town Point	Y	R	1	From Mathews, Rt. 14 South (3.8); R On Rt. 615 (.6)
Mecklenburg	Lake Gaston	Poplar Creek	Y	R	2	From Broadnax, Rt. 58 West (2); L On Rt 626 (1.8)
Mecklenburg	Lake Gaston	Steel Bridge	Y	R	1	Southwest On Rt. 1 (7) Of South Hill
Mecklenburg	Lake Gordon	Lake Gordon	N	R	1	Rt. 58 South (3.5); R On Rt. 664 (.6); R On Rt. 799
Middlesex	Rappahannock River	Mill Creek	Y	R	1	From Hartfield, Rt. 3 North (.5); R On Rt 626 (3.1)
Middlesex	Rappahannock River	Mill Stone	Y	R	1	Church View, Rt. 17 North (1.1); R On Rt 640 (4.4); L On Rt 608 (.8)
Middlesex	Rappahannock River	Saluda	Y	R	1	Rt 618 North (1.4) Of Saluda
Montgomery	New River	Claytor Dam	N	R	1	Rt. 232-605 South (2) Of Radford

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Montgomery	New River	Whitethorne	N	R	1	From Rt 460, Rt. 655 West (6.8); L On Rt 652 (2); R On Rt 623 (1)
Nelson	James River	Midway	N	RS	0	In James River Wma Off Rt 743 (3); Northeast Of Wingina
Nelson	James River	Wingina	N	RS	0	Rt 56 South Of Wingina
Nelson	Lake Nelson	Lake Nelson	Y	R	1	From Arrington, Rt 655 East (1.4); L On Rt 812 (.8) To Ramp
Newport News City	James River	Huntington Park	Y	R	6	I-64 East To W. Mercury Blvd Exit Rt 258 To Foot Of James River Bridge
Newport News City	Salters Creek	Peterson Yacht Basin	Y	R	2	I-64 To Terminal Avenue Exit, L On Jefferson Ave To 16th Street; R On 16th Street (1) To Anderson Park
Newport News City	Warwick River	Denbigh	Y	R	1	Rt 173 In Newport News
Northampton	Cape Charles River	Cape Charles	Y	R	4	Town Of Cape Charles, Rt. 1103
Northampton	Oyster Harbor	Oyster	Y	R	2	In Oyster On Rt 1802
Northampton	Red Bank Creek	Red Bank	N	R	1	From Nassawadox, Rt 13 South (1); L On Rt 617 (1.9)
Northumberland	Cockrell Creek	Shell	N	R	1	Southeast On Rt 657 (2) Of Reedville
Northumberland	Gardy's Mill Pond	Gardy's Mill Pond	Y	R	1	From Callao ,West On Rt 202 (2); L On Rt 617 (1.2)
Northumberland	Great Wicomico River	Coopers	Y	R	1	From Heathsville, Rt. 360 East (4) To Horse Head; R On Rt 707 (1.5)
Northumberland	Yeaomico River, South	Lodge Landing	Y	R	1	From Callo, North On Route 712 To End Of Road. (Lodge Creek)
Nottoway	Nottoway County Lake	Nottoway County Lake	N	R	1	Rt. 606 North (5.5) Of Blackstone
Orange	Lake Orange	Lake Orange	Y	R	1	From Orange, Rt 20 East (2.2); R On Rt 629 (2); L On Rt 739 (.6)
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Alma	N	SA	0	Rt 650 South Of Alma (.5)
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Fosters	N	RS	0	From Luray, Rt 675 North (2.7); R On Rt R-684 (6)
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Grove Hill	N	SA	0	From Shenandoah, Rt 340 North (2); R On Rt 650 (1.1)
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Inskeep	N	RS	0	From Luray, Rt 684 North (2.5) At The Rt 675 Bridge
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Massanutten	N	RS	0	From Luray, Rt. 211 West (3.8); R On Rt 615 (2.8)
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Newport	N	SA	0	Northeast On Rt 340 (7) Of Shenandoah
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Shenandoah Riverside	Y	R	1	Town Of Shenandoah, Morrison Street

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Page	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	White House	N	RS	0	From Luray, Rt 211 East (2.8); R On Rt 646 (.1)
Pittsylvania	Dan River	City Farm	N	R	1	City Of Danville Off Rt 58
Pittsylvania	Lake Burton	Lake Burton	N	R	1	From Callands, Rt 57 East (3); L On Rt 969 (3); R On Rt 626 (1.3); R On Rt 649 (.6); R On Rt 800 (2.3)
Pittsylvania	Leesville Reservoir	Leesville Dam #7	N	R	1	From Hurt, Bus Rt 29 South (1.5) To Rt 988 (1.3); R On Rt 642 (1.2); R On Rt 754 (2.9)
Pittsylvania	Leesville Reservoir	Myer's Creek	N	R	1	From Gretna, Rt 40 West (2.5); R On Rt 790 (.2); L On Rt 765 (2.7); L On Rt 672 (1.2); R On Rt 768 (2.2)
Pittsylvania	Smith Mountain Lake	Anthony Ford #4	Y	R	1	From Penhook, Rt 40 East (2); L On Rt 626 (6)
Poquoson City	Back River	Messick	N	RS	0	City Of Poquoson, Rt 171 To Back River
Portsmouth	Elizabeth River	City Park	Y	R	4	City Of Portsmouth On City Park Drive
Powhatan	James River	Beaumont	N	RS	0	Rt. 522 South (1) Of Maidens
Powhatan	James River	Watkins Landing	Y	R	2	From Bon Air, Rt 147 West (3); R On Rt 711 (6.5); R On Rt 625 (1.2)
Powhatan	Powhatan Lakes	Powhatan Lakes	N	R	1	From Powhatan, Rt 60 West (3.2); R On Rt 684 (1.8); L On Rt 625 (1.6)
Prince Edward	Briery Creek Lake	Briery Creek	Y	R	1	Rt. 460 S Farmville, S. Rt. 15, (5 1/2m) Enter Wma On W Rt 14, Cont. 3/4 M
Prince Edward	Briery Creek Lake	Briery Creek - 701 Landing	Y	R	1	Rt. 460 S Farmville, S. Rt. 15, (8 Miles) To Rt 701, Turn Left Onto 701 To End
Prince Edward	Sandy River Reservoir	Sandy River Reservoir	Y	R	2	Rt. 460 E, Farmville, S. Rt On 640 (1m) Enter On Left
Pulaski	Claytor Lake	Allisonia	Y	R	1	At Allisonia, Rt 693
Pulaski	Claytor Lake	Dublin	Y	R	2	Southeast On Rt 660 (7) Of Dublin
Pulaski	Claytor Lake	Harry Dehaven Park	Y	R	2	From I-81, South On Little River Dam Rd. (5.5), West On Poor House Rd. (2.5) To Park, Follow Signs To Ramp.
Richmond City	James River	Ancarrow's Landing	Y	R	2	City Of Richmond On Maury Street
Richmond City	James River	Huguenot Bridge	N	BS	0	West Of Huguenot Bridge (.2) Off Southampton Street
Richmond County	Rappahannock River	Carter's Wharf	N	R	1	From Warsaw, Rt 3 West (2); Rt 624 North (10.8); L On Rt 622 (2)

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Richmond County	Rappahannock River	Simonson Landing	N	R	1	From Farnham, Rt 3 East To Rt 608 South To Rt 606 To Ramp
Richmond County	Rappahannock River	Totuskey	N	R	1	From Warsaw, Southeast On Route 3 (3)
Rockbridge	Maury River	Locker Landing	N	SA	0	Town Of Glasgow On Rt 130
Rockbridge	Maury River	Vmi Route 60 Bridge	N	SA	0	West Of Buono Vista Off Route 60 (5)
Rockbridge	Robertson Lake	Lake Robertson	N	R	1	Rt 770 West (1) Of Colliertown
Rockingham	Lake Shenandoah	Lake Shenandoah	Y	R	1	From Harrisonburg, Southwest On Rt 659 (1.9); L On Rt 689 (.7); R On Rt 687 (.6)
Rockingham	Shenandoah River (South)	Elkton	N	BS	0	From Elkton, North On Rt 33 Business (.2)
Rockingham	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Island Ford	N	SA	0	From Island Ford Rt. 340, W. Rt 649, Left Rt. 642, Ramp On Right
Rockingham	Shenandoah River, S. Fork	Port Republic	N	SA	0	From Grottoes, Rt. 340 N.; W. Rt. 659, R. Bef. River, Ramp On Left.
Russell	Clinch River	Blackford Bridge	N	RS	0	From Honaker On Rt 80 South (1.4); L On Rt 641 (.3)
Russell	Clinch River	Carterton	N	RS	0	From Castlewood In The Community Of Carterton, Rt 615 North (1.9); R On Rt 628 (3.3); R On Rt 614 (1)
Russell	Clinch River	Nash's Ford	N	RS	0	From Honaker, Rt 645 West (8.3); L On Rt 798 (.2)
Russell	Clinch River	Puckett's Hole	N	RS	0	From Honaker, Rt. 645 West (2.2); L On Rt 651 (1); R On Rt 652 (2.3)
Russell	Laurel Bed Lake	Laurel Bed Lake	Y	R	1	From Saltville, Rt 634 North (.3); L On Rt 613 To Rt 747 In Clinch Mt. WMA
Scott	Bark Camp Lake	Bark Camp Lake	Y	R	1	From Dungannon, Rt 72 North (.5); L On Rt 653 (1.6); R On Rt 706 (3.9); R On Rt 822 (2.8)
Scott	Clinch River	Clinch Port	N	RS	0	From Clinchport Take Rt 65 North (2.3); Landing On The Right
Scott	Clinch River	Dungannon	N	SA	0	From Dungannon, Rt 65 At Ruritan Park
Scott	Clinch River	State Line	N	RS	0	From Clinchport, Sr 58 East (1.6); R On Sr 625 (9)
Shenandoah	Shenandoah River, N. Fork	Chapman's	N	RS	0	From Edinburg, Rt 11 North (3.2); R On Rt 671 (2.2)
Shenandoah	Shenandoah River, N. Fork	Meems Bottom	N	SA	0	From New Market (4.5) North; Rt 730 East (3.2)

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Shenandoah	Shenandoah, North Fork	Strasburg Landing	Y	RS	0	From Strasburg, W On Rt 55, R On Industrial Road (Ssr 1201) To The Park
Smyth	Holston River	Saltville	N	R	1	
Smyth	Hungry Mother Lake	Hungry Mother S.P.	Y	R	1	From Marion, Rt 16 North, R On Sr 617 (1.4); L On Sr 750
Southampton	Nottoway River	Blackwater Bridge	N	R	1	From Windsor, Rt 603 West (6)
Southampton	Nottoway River	Carey's	N	R	1	From Capron, Rt 653 Northeast (4.5)
Southampton	Nottoway River	General Vaughan Bridge	N	R	2	From Franklin, Rt 258 South (9.5)
Southampton	Nottoway River	Hercules	N	R	1	From Franklin, Rt 671 West (4)
Spotsylvania	Rapidan River	Elys Ford	Y	RS	0	From Chancellorsville, Rt 610 Northwest (4.5)
Spotsylvania	Rappahannock River	Motts Run	N	BS	0	From Fredericksburg, Rt 3 West; North On Rt 639 (9); L On Rt 618 (2.1)
Stafford	Lake Curtis	Lake Curtis	Y	R	1	From Hartwood, Rt 612 North (2.7); R On Rt 622 (5)
Suffolk City	Bennetts Creek	Bennetts Creek	N	R	1	City Of Suffolk, Rt 626
Suffolk City	Butler Tract Lake	Butler Tract Lake	N	R	1	From Chuckatuck, North On Rt. 10/32 (1.25), East Into Suffolk Park, Follow Signs Inside Park To Ramp.
Suffolk City	Crane Lake	Crane Lake	N	R	1	From Chuckatuck, North On Rt. 10/32 (1.25), East Into Suffolk Park, Follow Signs Inside Park To Ramp.
Suffolk City	Western Branch Reservoir	Western Branch	N	R	2	From Providence Church, Rt 605 North (3); Girl Scout Drive To Ramp
Surry	James River	Lawnes Creek	Y	R	1	From Bacons Castle, Rt 650 North (5.2)
Sussex	Airfield Pond	Airfield Pond	N	R	1	From Wakefield, South On Rt.628 (5) To Ramp.
Sussex	Nottoway River	Peters Bridge	N	R	1	From Littleton, Rt 35 South (1); R On Rt 631 (2.7)
Virginia Beach	Back Bay	Back Bay	N	R	1	Princess Anne Road, South To Back Bay; L On Rt 622
Virginia Beach	Back Bay	Princess Anne WMA	N	R	1	From Va.Beach South On Princess Anne Road; L On Rt 699
Virginia Beach	Rudee Inlet	Owls Creek Municipal	Y	R	4	From Virginia Beach, South On General Booth Blvd.
Warren	Shenandoah River (Main)	Morgan's Ford	N	SA	0	From Front Royal, East On 6th. Street To Rt 624 (3)
Warren	Shenandoah River (North)	Riverton	N	R	1	From Front Royal, North On Rt 340 (); R On Rt 637 () To Ramp
Warren	Shenandoah River (South)	Bentonville	N	SA	0	From Bentonville, West On Rt 613 (1)

County/City	Body Of Water	Access Area	Barrier Free?	Type of Access	#	Location
Warren	Shenandoah River (South)	Front Royal	N	SA	0	Front Royal On Luray Avenue
Warren	Shenandoah River (South)	Karo	N	SA	0	From Front Royal, West On Rt 340 (5) At Karo
Warren	Shenandoah River (South)	Simpson's Landing	N	SA	0	From Front Royal, West On Rt 340 (.3); R On Rt 619 (4.3); L On Rt 673 (7); L On Rt 623 (2.1)
Warren	Shenandoah, North Fork	Catletts Ford Landing	N	SA	0	From Front Royal, North On Rt 522(.9); L On Rt 637 Guard Hill Rd. (4.3); L On Rt 626, Catletts Ford Rd.
Washington	Hidden Valley Lake	Hidden Valley Lake	Y	R	1	From Holston, North On Rt 19 (2.5); R On Rt 690 (2) To WMA
Washington	South Holsten Lake	Whitaker Hollow Park	N	R	2	From Abingdon, South On Rt 75 (8); L On Rt 670 (3); L On Rt 674 (4); L On 664 (2)
Washington	South Holsten Reservoir	Avens	N	R	1	From Abingdon, South On Rt 75 (3.2); L On Rt 672 (2.4)
Washington	South Holston River	Clinch Mountain Landing	N	R	1	
Westmoreland	Chandler's Mill Pond	American Legion	Y	R	1	From Montross North Rt 3 (1)
Westmoreland	Potomac River	Colonial Beach	Y	R	2	Town Of Colonial Beach On Rt 1156
Wise	Clinch River	St Paul	Y	BS	0	Located In St Paul At Town Park
Wyrthe	New River	Austinville	Y	R	1	From Austinville S. On Rt 69 To The River
Wyrthe	Rural Retreat Lake	Rural Retreat Lake	Y	R	1	From Rural Retreat, South On Rt 749 (1.1); R On Rt 677 (1.6); L On Rt 778 (.7)
York	Poquoson River	Tide Mill	N	R	1	From Tabb, West On Yorktown Road; L On Rt 600 (2)

Sunrise and Sunset Timetable Richmond, Virginia

Sunrise-sunset times below are Eastern Standard Time
Add one hour for Eastern Daylight Savings Time

Day	JAN		FEB		MAR		APR		MAY		JUNE	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)
1	7:25	5:03	7:13	5:34	6:41	6:04	5:55	6:33	5:14	7:00	4:50	7:25
2	7:25	5:03	7:12	5:35	6:40	6:05	5:54	6:34	5:13	7:01	4:50	7:26
3	7:25	5:04	7:11	5:36	6:38	6:06	5:52	6:35	5:12	7:02	4:49	7:27
4	7:25	5:05	7:11	5:37	6:37	6:07	5:51	6:35	5:11	7:03	4:49	7:27
5	7:25	5:06	7:10	5:39	6:35	6:08	5:49	6:36	5:10	7:04	4:49	7:28
6	7:25	5:07	7:09	5:40	6:34	6:09	5:48	6:37	5:09	7:04	4:49	7:29
7	7:25	5:08	7:08	5:41	6:32	6:10	5:46	6:38	5:08	7:05	4:49	7:29
8	7:25	5:09	7:07	5:42	6:31	6:11	5:45	6:39	5:07	7:06	4:48	7:30
9	7:25	5:10	7:06	5:43	6:30	6:12	5:43	6:40	5:06	7:07	4:48	7:30
10	7:25	5:11	7:05	5:44	6:28	6:13	5:42	6:41	5:05	7:08	4:48	7:31
11	7:24	5:12	7:03	5:45	6:27	6:13	5:40	6:42	5:04	7:09	4:48	7:31
12	7:24	5:13	7:02	5:46	6:25	6:14	5:39	6:43	5:03	7:10	4:48	7:32
13	7:24	5:14	7:01	5:47	6:24	6:15	5:38	6:44	5:02	7:11	4:48	7:32
14	7:24	5:15	7:00	5:48	6:22	6:16	5:36	6:45	5:01	7:12	4:48	7:32
15	7:23	5:16	6:59	5:49	6:21	6:17	5:35	6:45	5:00	7:12	4:48	7:33
16	7:23	5:17	6:58	5:50	6:19	6:18	5:33	6:46	5:00	7:13	4:48	7:33
17	7:23	5:18	6:57	5:52	6:18	6:19	5:32	6:47	4:59	7:14	4:48	7:33
18	7:22	5:19	6:55	5:53	6:16	6:20	5:31	6:48	4:58	7:15	4:48	7:34
19	7:22	5:20	6:54	5:54	6:15	6:21	5:29	6:49	4:57	7:16	4:48	7:34
20	7:21	5:21	6:53	5:55	6:13	6:22	5:28	6:50	4:57	7:17	4:49	7:34
21	7:21	5:22	6:52	5:56	6:12	6:23	5:27	6:51	4:56	7:17	4:49	7:34
22	7:20	5:23	6:50	5:57	6:10	6:24	5:25	6:52	4:55	7:18	4:49	7:35
23	7:20	5:24	6:49	5:58	6:09	6:25	5:24	6:53	4:55	7:19	4:49	7:35
24	7:19	5:25	6:48	5:59	6:07	6:26	5:23	6:54	4:54	7:20	4:50	7:35
25	7:18	5:26	6:46	6:00	6:06	6:26	5:22	6:55	4:53	7:21	4:50	7:35
26	7:18	5:27	6:45	6:01	6:04	6:27	5:20	6:55	4:53	7:21	4:50	7:35
27	7:17	5:29	6:44	6:02	6:03	6:28	5:19	6:56	4:52	7:22	4:51	7:35
28	7:16	5:30	6:42	6:03	6:01	6:29	5:18	6:57	4:52	7:23	4:51	7:35
29	7:16	5:31			6:00	6:30	5:17	6:58	4:51	7:23	4:51	7:35
30	7:15	5:32			5:58	6:31	5:15	6:59	4:51	7:24	4:52	7:35
31	7:14	5:33			5:57	6:32			4:51	7:25		

Day	JULY		AUG		SEPT		OCT		NOV		DEC	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)	(a.m.)	(p.m.)
1	4:52	7:35	5:14	7:18	5:40	6:39	6:05	5:53	6:35	5:11	7:06	4:52
2	4:53	7:35	5:15	7:17	5:41	6:37	6:06	5:51	6:36	5:10	7:07	4:52
3	4:53	7:35	5:16	7:16	5:42	6:36	6:07	5:50	6:37	5:09	7:08	4:51
4	4:54	7:35	5:16	7:15	5:43	6:34	6:08	5:48	6:38	5:08	7:09	4:51
5	4:54	7:34	5:17	7:14	5:44	6:33	6:09	5:47	6:39	5:07	7:10	4:51
6	4:55	7:34	5:18	7:13	5:44	6:31	6:10	5:45	6:40	5:06	7:11	4:51
7	4:55	7:34	5:19	7:11	5:45	6:30	6:11	5:44	6:41	5:05	7:11	4:51
8	4:56	7:34	5:20	7:10	5:46	6:28	6:12	5:42	6:42	5:04	7:12	4:51
9	4:57	7:33	5:21	7:09	5:47	6:27	6:13	5:41	6:43	5:04	7:13	4:51
10	4:57	7:33	5:22	7:08	5:48	6:25	6:13	5:39	6:44	5:03	7:14	4:52
11	4:58	7:32	5:22	7:07	5:49	6:23	6:14	5:38	6:46	5:02	7:15	4:52
12	4:59	7:32	5:23	7:06	5:49	6:22	6:15	5:37	6:47	5:01	7:15	4:52
13	4:59	7:32	5:24	7:04	5:50	6:20	6:16	5:35	6:48	5:00	7:16	4:52
14	5:00	7:31	5:25	7:03	5:51	6:19	6:17	5:34	6:49	5:00	7:17	4:52
15	5:01	7:31	5:26	7:02	5:52	6:17	6:18	5:32	6:50	4:59	7:17	4:53
16	5:01	7:30	5:27	7:01	5:53	6:16	6:19	5:31	6:51	4:58	7:18	4:53
17	5:02	7:29	5:28	6:59	5:54	6:14	6:20	5:30	6:52	4:57	7:19	4:53
18	5:03	7:29	5:28	6:58	5:54	6:13	6:21	5:28	6:53	4:57	7:19	4:54
19	5:04	7:28	5:29	6:57	5:55	6:11	6:22	5:27	6:54	4:56	7:20	4:54
20	5:04	7:28	5:30	6:55	5:56	6:10	6:23	5:26	6:55	4:56	7:20	4:55
21	5:05	7:27	5:31	6:54	5:57	6:08	6:24	5:24	6:56	4:55	7:21	4:55
22	5:06	7:26	5:32	6:53	5:58	6:06	6:25	5:23	6:57	4:55	7:21	4:56
23	5:07	7:25	5:33	6:51	5:59	6:05	6:26	5:22	6:58	4:54	7:22	4:56
24	5:07	7:25	5:33	6:50	5:59	6:03	6:27	5:21	6:59	4:54	7:22	4:57
25	5:08	7:24	5:34	6:49	6:00	6:02	6:28	5:19	7:00	4:53	7:23	4:57
26	5:09	7:23	5:35	6:47	6:01	6:00	6:29	5:18	7:01	4:53	7:23	4:58
27	5:10	7:22	5:36	6:46	6:02	5:59	6:30	5:17	7:02	4:53	7:23	4:59
28	5:11	7:21	5:37	6:44	6:03	5:57	6:31	5:16	7:03	4:52	7:24	4:59
29	5:11	7:21	5:38	6:43	6:04	5:56	6:32	5:15	7:04	4:52	7:24	5:00
30	5:12	7:20	5:39	6:41	6:05	5:54	6:33	5:13	7:05	4:52	7:24	5:01
31	5:13	7:19	5:39	6:40			6:34	5:12			7:25	5:02

Apply corrections below to Richmond sunrise-sunset times
to obtain official times at other Virginia locations.

Location	Correction	Location	Correction
Newport News	-5 minutes	Bristol	+19 minutes
Norfolk	-5 minutes	Cape Charles	-6 minutes
Roanoke	+10 minutes	Charlottesville	+4 minutes
Tazewell	+16 minutes	Chincoteague	-8 minutes
Williamsburg	-3 minutes	Danville	+8 minutes
Winchester	+3 minutes	Fredericksburg	0 minutes

This program received Federal financial assistance from the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to:

The Office for Human Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4040 N. Fairfax Drive
Room 300
Arlington, Virginia 22203

Safe Boating

The Law about Alcohol, Drugs and Boating

Virginia's law states that boat operators with blood alcohol concentrations of .08 percent or more by weight, by volume, shall be presumed to be under the influence of alcoholic intoxicants.

Implied Consent

The Virginia Implied Consent Law states that by operating a watercraft, you are agreeing to submit to a breath and/or blood test to determine the amount of alcohol and/or drugs in your blood. Unreasonable refusal to submit to these tests constitutes grounds for the revocation of the operator's privilege to operate a watercraft on the waters of the Commonwealth.



Zero Tolerance Law

Virginia Law prohibits persons younger than 21 from consuming alcohol and operating a watercraft with any measurable alcohol level. Operation under the influence of alcohol or other drugs is a criminal offense. Additionally, persons age 18-20 arrested buying, possessing, or drinking alcohol can be fined up to \$2,500, lose their motor vehicle operator's license for up to 1 year, and be sent to jail.

Protect Yourself

Don't allow a drinking boater to make you and your passengers boating fatality statistics. Be alert to what other boaters are doing and steer clear of boaters who may be abusing alcohol and/or drugs.



Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
4010 West Broad Street, P.O. Box 11104
Richmond, Virginia 23230-1104
804-367-1000
804-367-1278 (V/TDD)
Boat Section— 1-877-898-BOAT (2628)
www.dgif.virginia.gov